

# DAILY CLARION.

Sunday Morning, Sept. 27.

## Magnificent Fighting.

Some curious observations have been made by the comparative fighting qualities of the Eastern and Western Yankee troops. These veterans have now tried the mettle of both and are competent judges. The Appeal gives us a small scrap of testimony in the following paragraph:

The famous battle of Gettysburg on both sides fully attests the superiority of the Eastern troops. Besides, an officer of General Longstreet's corps was heard to say that although he had witnessed a great deal of hard fighting in Virginia during the war, he had seen nothing to equal that of the past few days. The Western men under Rosecrans are a different breed of Yankees from those who composed the army of the Potomac, and fight with a pertinacity and bravery unknown to those with whom our Virginia army has had to contend.

From all accounts our soldiers have fought better than at Chickamauga, and there were many reasons for it. The magnitude of the stake was the controlling one. Another is properly stated by the Appeal:

To add to the intense ardor of our troops, moreover, a spirit of emulation sprang up between the troops of Gen. Bragg and those of Gen. Longstreet, which greatly increased their furious zeal for victory, and rendered them irresistible.

We should like, also, in common with the Mobile News, to have the judgment of the veterans of Lee's army upon the fighting of Bragg's men. They fought side by side in generous emulation, and we doubt not both came out with the opinion that they wanted no better comrades through the trying ordeal of a great battle. The people have reason to be proud of their glorious soldiers. The Confederate army is now an army of heroes and veterans. God bless the brave boys is the prayer of every patriotic man and woman in the land.

With such defenders as these, let those who talked of being whipped, and whined after reconstruction and other base terms of peace, hang their heads in shame.

## Important Orders.

Gen. Cooper has issued orders directing the officers of Regiments and Battalions to cause to be made out and forwarded through proper channels, to the Chief of Bureau of Conscription, a complete list of all persons held as substitutes in the army in their respective commands. This list will embrace the regiment, company, date of enlistment and age of each substitute, with the name and post office of the principal. They will, also, in the same manner, furnish a monthly roll of all deserters and absentees without leave. All officers charged by commanding Generals with the duty of arresting and returning deserters and absentees, will report to the Commandant of Conscripts in the respective States to which such officers are sent, and will co-operate generally with enrolling officers in the discharge of the duties assigned to them.

The following act of Congress is published for the information of all concerned:

Every person not subject to the rules and articles of war who shall procure or entice a soldier of the Confederate States to desert, or who shall purchase from any soldier his arms, uniform, clothing, or any part thereof, shall, upon legal conviction, be fined at the discretion of the Court having cognizance of the same in any sum not exceeding three hundred dollars, and be imprisoned not exceeding one year.

The above law has been violated in thousands of instances, and we have yet to hear of the first conviction under it. We hope now, however, since the proper authorities have at last taken the matter in hand, that punishment will promptly follow each and every violation of the law.

## The War News.

Our columns are mostly occupied this morning with accounts of the great battle recently fought in Georgia, taken from papers published nearest the scene of action. We also present three letters from our correspondent, "Shadow," which, although they have been a longer time coming than is necessary, are nevertheless interesting. As yet, all accounts, telegraphic and otherwise, are incomplete, and will remain so several days, but enough is known to show clearly that Bragg has gained a magnificent victory. Whether that victory will restore us East Tennessee, and a portion of Middle Tennessee, the future must determine. We entertain high hopes that the victorious commander will not balk in his onward movement until he achieves the grandest triumph of the war.

## The Mails.

Our eyes were gladdened yesterday by the appearance of several of our old exchanges, many of which we had not seen for more than two weeks. Right pleased were we to know that the Richmond, Savannah, Columbus, Atlanta, and other papers, had not ceased to exist. We had about given them out. We had almost concluded that they were among the things that were—that they had yielded up the ghost in such a desperate hurry, that they had not time to send us a solitary token of remembrance. Being now happy in the knowledge of their existence, we embrace the occasion to express the hope that the mails and postmasters will not again break up our acquaintance for some time to come.

Accident.—As a train on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad was switching off on a branch track at the Depot Thursday night, an army surgeon, belonging to the 20th Mississippi-regiment was crushed between the car and the platform. He died of internal injuries yesterday morning. We learn that no blame could be attached to any one connected with the train.

## OUR ARMY CORRESPONDENCE.

From the Army of Tennessee.

Special Correspondence of the Daily Clarion.

MAKETTA, Sept. 18th, 1863.

All is silent in front this morning. The Yankee army withdrawn entirely from North Georgia, is digging away at Chattanooga, and the trains on the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad are running over the recently repaired draw-bridge at Bridgeport. We hear nothing further of the reinforcement of the Yankees from Middle Tennessee, though it is generally believed that they are receiving assistance from Grant and Meade, simultaneously. Our army still remains in the neighborhood of Lafayette, and will probably stay there, like Macawber, for something to turn up. The influx of troops continues. Scarcely a day passes that does not witness a stream of cars freighted with troops, moving their battle flags, rolling the drums, and shouting like mad. The faint spirit pervades the entire army, and the soldiers are now being drilled in the most efficient manner. A generous rivalry between the Virginia troops and the Mississippi troops and Bragg's army, would stimulate all alike to deeds of splendid courage and heroic endurance.

No army in the North is a match for this one, now. There is but one thing to render our successful invasion of Tennessee and Kentucky certain, and that is, a lack of generalship on the part of those directing the movements of the Confederate forces. We must not permit the Yankees time to fortify and reinforce, and construct pontons, before we are on them. Quick lies and no delay is, or should be the watchword now. The country will not be satisfied with a mere repulse of the enemy. He must be driven back, cut off, scattered, captured—annihilated if it can be, that the back bone of the circumventing anachronism of subjugation may be broken and rendered powerless forever.

Fortress is still pressing them beyond Ringgold. It was reported last night that no Yankee vessel could successfully run the gauntlet, and approach within shelling distance of Charleston. They may, it is true, shell the city from Morris Island, but their heavy guns will burst in the attempt. Thus the only advantage which the enemy will gain by all his immense efforts at the reduction of Charleston, will be a blockade of the port, which is no great disadvantage to us.

SHADOW.

MAKETTA, Sept. 19, 1863.

The army of Lafayette was under marching orders yesterday, and it is understood that this morning the whole line is advancing—the cavalry in front. Yesterday Robertson's Texas Brigade of Longstreet's corps was ordered to take position on the right, near Ringgold, had scarcely reached that point before they were attacked by a force of the enemy. Robertson's Brigade charged and repulsed them, killing sixty of their men. The supply trains have been ordered to Ringgold, and depots of subsistence have been temporarily established at Ringgold and Gordon's Mills, about eight or ten miles to the left. The front line of our advance extends in a sort of arc-cent from Gordon's Mills on the Lafayette road to Ringgold and beyond. The enemy were at Chickamauga station, and from there to Chattanooga, where their main force on this side of the Tennessee is centered. All the thirteen bridges over Chickamauga creek, which thirteen times crosses the Atlanta and Chattanooga road have been destroyed by the Yankees. The report mentioned in my letter of yesterday, that the enemy were running trains across the Tennessee at Bridgeport, I learn, lacks confirmation.

I have conversed with two of our scouts who were in Chattanooga in disguise a few nights since. They report the Federals there in heavy force, but property and citizens left behind have not been molested. They also report that the enemy were doing very little towards fortifying the place, save repairing the old works constructed by our engineers, during the summer.

Everybody in the front is jubilant with hope and impatient for the onward march—officers and men alike. General Bragg was heard to remark a few evenings since, that he intended to go direct to Nashville. The reinforcements from Virginia head the column—those veterans who have never known defeat, and upon whose banners are inscribed the glorious names of more than thirteen pitched battles. Bragg's gallant army of Tennesseans occupy the post of honor this time, to follow up the victory; and to them will be assigned the pleasing task of driving the invader back over every foot of the soil they have so recklessly and ruthlessly invaded. If Rosecrans does not fall back beyond the river, a battle cannot much longer be delayed.

SHADOW.

MAKETTA, Sept. 21st, 1863.

The Ball has fairly opened in "the front," and before this reaches you, in all probability a great battle will have been fought in the vicinity of Chattanooga. The first significant notes of battle have been echoed back to us from the Tennessee, in the sad announcement of the death of more than one gallant officer of the Tennessee army. Skirmishing on the right commenced Friday and was resumed the next day, gradually increasing into sharp and rapid contest interspersed along our lines throughout the day. Gregg's Brigade occupying a position about the center, first encountered the enemy at Chickamauga along the railroad and drove them back. Gen. Gregg's horse becoming unmanageable during the action, carried him quite into the enemy's lines, when he was paralyzed for a time by a shot received in the neck, which unsaddled him and he fell violently to the earth. The Yankees supposing him to be dead, cut the spurs from his boots and also his sword from its belt. Subsequently, they were driven back from that portion of the field and the General was rescued. He reached here Sunday night, and from him I learn that Cheatham's Division were driving the enemy all day Saturday from the direction of Willis' Valley towards the railroad.

General Preston Smith, who so distinguished himself at Shiloh and at Richmond, Ky., was killed while gallantly leading his Brigade into action. Col. Thos. W. Beaumont, of the 50th Tennessee, Captain John S. Donelson, of the

14th Tennessee, and Capt. St. Clair M. Morton, of the 10th Tennessee, are also numbered among the killed. Their remains will be brought down here to-morrow for interment in the Marietta Cemetery. The remains will be escorted to the Cemetery by the officers and soldiers of this Post and the Cadets of the Institute, and be buried with military honors.

The loss of so many officers signifies that the meeting of the two hostile forces was upon a more extensive scale than at first believed, and the continuous fighting along the lines would seem to indicate that both were closing in for a great battle. It is reported that we have captured 3500 prisoners. General Bragg telegraphed General Pillow at this point to-day that he had driven the enemy from all his strong positions and now holds the field. I have not heard the result of this morning's work—if the fighting is still going on. By to-morrow's train I shall doubtless receive some definite information.

SHADOW.

We announce with pleasure, says the Atlanta Register, of the 22d the fact that Brig. Gen. Howell Cobb, has been promoted to a Major Generalship by President Davis, and assigned to the command of the Georgia troops. The promotion of this talented Georgian will be hailed with delight by every gallant son of the "Empire State of the South." Soldiers and citizens have implicit confidence in the ability and skill of Gen. Cobb, and will be proud to follow such a noble chieftain against the foe.

CHARLESTON.—FORT SUMTER.—Recent intelligence from a high and trustworthy source, says the Richmond Examiner, conveys the gratifying assurance that Fort Sumter will be held in spite of all the efforts of the Yankees to take it. Their only chance was to effect its reduction by assault, and that having failed, they will hardly venture to repeat the experiment. With Fort Sumter on one side of the channel, and Ft. Moultrie on the other, no Yankee vessel can successfully run the gauntlet, and approach within shelling distance of Charleston. They may, it is true, shell the city from Morris Island, but their heavy guns will burst in the attempt. Thus the only advantage which the enemy will gain by all his immense efforts at the reduction of Charleston, will be a blockade of the port, which is no great disadvantage to us.

## THE BATTLE OF RINGGOLD.

The Great struggle commenced.

LOSS ON BOTH SIDES HEAVY.

From the Atlanta Appeal, 21st.

As was expected, the constant skirmishing between the opposing armies north of us, that has been going on for the last two weeks, has at length resulted in a general battle. The armies on both sides undoubtedly exceeded in numbers those that have yet been engaged in any of the battle-fields of the West, and in view of the importance of the result, which is fully appreciated by all, we may expect, when the events are fully known, to place upon record the history of one of the most desperate struggles that has been witnessed during the war.

The maneuvering that has been going on since the enemy crossed the river and our forces fell back from East Tennessee and the river, in front of Dalton and Rome, and extending west to the State line, resulted in forcing back the columns sent out by Rosecrans toward Dalton, Rome and up Willis' valley, to his main body, which occupied a line and some miles south of the river, the left north of Ringgold. Gen. Bragg's right was in the vicinity of Ringgold, under Longstreet. Gen. Hill commanded the center, and Gen. Polk the left. Gen. Buckner's corps also formed part of the left.

Gen. Bragg determined to bring on a general engagement, and this determination was announced to the army in a general order, which was published on Saturday. His troops shared his spirit to the most enthusiastic degree, and we are informed endured the fatigue necessary in the most cheerful manner. On Saturday morning the left, under Gen. Polk and Buckner, attacked the enemy's right, and drove them back some four miles, when evening came on and the pursuit was stopped. At the same time Gen. Walker's division made an attack on the enemy's right center, and made some impression. During the day Rosecrans held position on Pasa Vine creek, where he had a bountiful supply of water, and at 10 o'clock at night our troops from the left were concentrated upon the left center, and a charge made. This is reported to have been a terrible struggle, but the enemy finally gave way, when our forces advanced, charging across the creek and occupying the heights on the other side. In this struggle our loss was about fifteen hundred, and one of our general officers informs us the ground over which our troops passed in the pursuit was literally covered with the Federal dead and wounded. The position thus secured is an important one, and so appears to have been understood by both sides; hence the desperate character of the struggle that took place.

On Sunday the fight was resumed along the entire line, and was obstinately kept up during the day. Only an indefinite statement of the result has reached the city, but enough is known to warrant us in saying the advantage rested with our arms. On the right and the left the enemy were driven back some distance; his center resisted every attack. It was understood, at last accounts, that a concentration of our forces would be made on this position this morning.

The losses upon both sides have been very heavy. It is impossible to get anything definite as to the total, but accounts represent them as enormous. Our loss, up to last evening, has been estimated by some gentlemen as high as 5,000 killed and wounded, and all concur in saying that of the enemy was much larger. Some two thousand Federal prisoners were taken yesterday. Our loss of officers is reported heavy, but we have been unable to obtain particulars. The wounded are being brought to the hospitals in the rear, as speedily as possible. Some few have reached the city.

Our loss in general officers, so far as we have been able to learn, is as follows: Gen. Preston Smith, of Tennessee, Gen. Wofford, of Georgia, killed on Saturday. Gen. Walhall, of Mississippi, is reported killed, but this lacks confirmation. Gen. Benning was wounded in the breast; Gen. Wm. Preston was also wounded, but the nature of his wound has not transpired here. Gen. Gregg was wounded in the head—the ball entering below the left ear and coming out under the left eye.

He is now at Marietta, and his wound is not considered necessarily fatal. Gen. Hood lost a leg. Gen. Cleburne, of Arkansas, is also reported wounded.

## The Battle of Chickamauga.

From the Atlanta Appeal, 21st.

The first great conflict for the redemption of the stronghold, and of that portion of Tennessee, lately given over to the enemy, has taken place, and thanks to the indomitable bravery of our gallant soldiers, victory rode with the Confederate banners. Owing to the unusual season of the commanding general in excluding reporters from the lines, we are as yet in possession of but few details, and for the present the public must rest satisfied with the concise statement of officials, and such collations of facts as we are able to gather from the few scraps arriving from the field. Our dispatches, from the highest authority it will be seen, announce a splendid victory after several days of maneuvering and heavy skirmishing, and two days of a hotly contested battle, ending with Sunday evening.

It seems that the enemy was so badly punished up to Sunday evening, and the advantage we had gained was so decided, that he embraced the opportunity of darkness to retreat, which he did, leaving his dead and wounded behind. This was unexpected. The enemy had held comparatively firm in his center, and a disposition had been made of our forces to assault his position early Monday morning. Had the fight been renewed the result cannot be doubted, but the expectation of our troops, which we understood was raised to the highest pitch, of striking a more decisive blow, were doomed to be disappointed. The game had fled.

Gov. Harris says the words of Rosecrans' army was engaged. We hope he has not been misinformed. If the statement is correct, and Rosecrans has no reserve, and is not joined by Burnside or otherwise reinforced, we do not believe he will be able to make another stand this side of the river, even if he had fortifications prepared. Of course he relied upon something of the kind to fall back upon, or had positions to cross in the event of defeat. Our dispatches announce him in full retreat, though some distance from the river, and that he was being hotly and successfully pursued. Nightfall, last evening, probably solved the problem whether another struggle will take place this side of the river.

Our information is that the policy of following up this victory by the most active offensive movements, has been determined. This is good news. There is no necessity of giving the enemy time to recuperate. Now, while the foe is dispirited by so disastrous a defeat, and before he can be reinforced is the time to push him to the wall. The whole country expects this to be done.

## Further News of the Great Battle.

From the Atlanta Intelligence of the 24th we copy the following:

We learn from sources deemed reliable, that on yesterday (Tuesday) Gen. Forrest destroyed the ponton bridges across the Tennessee river, by which the enemy expected to cross in the event of defeat, but being driven from that portion of the river, they fell into our hands.

It is also stated that the right wing of our army had succeeded in getting in the enemy's rear, cutting off his retreat by way of Tennessee.

Rosecrans' men are reported to be without any rations or ammunition, all their stores having been destroyed to prevent their falling in our hands.

Our capture of light artillery will foot up 53 pieces, many of which are fine Parrott guns.

The battlefield is represented as literally covered with dead and wounded Yankees, and a very intelligent gentleman informs us that the enemy's loss will exceed ours five to one. All our wounded have been removed from the field, and are being cared for as the circumstances will permit.

Several of the Yankees captured Tuesday report that they are subsisting on green corn and state that if cut off from crossing the river, the whole army will surrender rather than starve.

From the letter of the special correspondent of the Atlanta Appeal we clip the following paragraphs: Dalton, Sept. 22, 1863.—Reports from the front are highly encouraging. A gentleman just in from McFarland's Springs, four miles east by south of Chattanooga, reports that on yesterday evening Longstreet, together with Reckinridge's corps, was pressing the enemy between that point and Chattanooga, and it was thought they were crossing the river. This was the only point at which any one of the enemy had been found, and it was supposed that the whole force was concentrated at that point. By to-night it is confidently expected that not a Federal will be on this side of the Tennessee, except as a prisoner. Squads of fifteen to thirty of the enemy were constantly arriving at points within our lines, inquiring the way to some headquarters where they could surrender themselves, declaring that Rosecrans' army was whipped and demoralized.

About 4 o'clock on Sunday the shelling of the enemy set the woods on fire on our left, and the fire is said to have extended over a large portion of the ground that had been travelled by the contending armies and large numbers of the enemy's wounded, who were last to be removed from the field, snuffed the torches of that element which they have used with such devastating effect against us.

A gentleman, whom I have every reason to believe, tells me that late on Sunday evening he heard a conversation between several general officers, concerning the amount of our loss in the battle of Chickamauga, fought on Saturday and Sunday it seemed to be the general opinion that in killed and wounded it would not fall below ten thousand, or go higher than twelve thousand. Of these it was thought that six out of seven are wounded, and a very large proportion only slightly. The number of slightly wounded is said to be unprecedentedly large. The Yankee loss is thought to exceed ours by at least one third.

The number of our prisoners, up to Monday morning, will reach at least 7,000, and some reports say 12,000.

The amount of artillery taken, up to Monday morning, is now stated to be eighty pieces, and in small arms, I am assured that enough has been collected from the field to fill the depot at this place. In the items of blankets, knapsacks, canteens, &c., a very large amount has been made to our quartermaster's stores from the spoils of the field.

The country will be delighted to know that the reported death of Gen. Hood from wounds and amputation of leg, is untrue. Capt. Hubbard, present searched at this place, was in the front to-day, saw the general as he was being carried on a litter, and says that he is in the best of spirits, with every prospect of living long to wear his weight of honors.

## TELEGRAPHIC.

Reports of the Press.

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